

E-002/RP-91-682 ORDER GRANTING PETITIONS TO INTERVENE

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Darrel L. Peterson  
Cynthia A. Kitlinski  
Dee Knaak  
Norma McKanna  
Don Storm

Chair  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

In the Matter of the Petition of  
Northern States Power Company  
for Approval of its Resource  
Plan

ISSUE DATE: December 13, 1991

DOCKET NO. E-002/RP-91-682

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INTERVENE

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

On October 1, 1991, Northern States Power Company (NSP) filed its resource plan pursuant to Minn. Rules, parts 7843.0100 to 7843.0600 and the deadline variance granted in its ORDER GRANTING VARIANCE in Docket No. E-002/M-91-6 (February 12, 1991).

On October 17, 1991, the Minnesota Department of Public Service (the Department) filed a petition to intervene in this matter as a matter of right. On October 21, 1991, the Residential Utilities Division of Office of the Attorney General (RUD-OAG) filed a similar petition.

On November 1, 1991, Metalcasters of Minnesota (Metalcasters) petitioned to intervene in this proceeding.

On November 22, 1991, the City of St. Paul (St. Paul) and the St. Paul Board of Water Commissioners (Water Board) filed petitions to intervene.

On December 3, 1991, the Commission met to consider this matter.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

**Intervenors as of Right**

Minn. Rules, part 7843.0300, subpart 7 provides that the Department and the RUD-OAG may become parties in a resource planning proceedings simply by filing a petition to intervene. No review or approval of the intervention of these parties by the Commission is required. Accordingly, having filed their petitions to intervene, the Department and the RUD-OAG have become parties to this proceeding.

### Metalcasters

Metalcasters has filed a timely petition for intervention in this matter. Not being an intervenor of right, Metalcasters must show that it is an "interested person" within the meaning of Minn. Rules, part 7843.0300, subpart 7. Metalcasters states that it would be harmed by NSP's proposed resource plan and represents interests different from those of the general ratepayer due to the unique load and usage characteristics of its members. Metalcasters seeks intervention in this proceeding to challenge and object to NSP's resource plan.

The Commission finds that Metalcasters meets the criterion of the rule for intervention and will approve its petition.

### City of St. Paul and the St. Paul Board of Water Commissioners

Minn. Rules, part 7843.0400, subpart 7 provides that the deadline for petitions for intervention in resource plan proceedings is November 1, 1991 of the year the utility's proposed resource plan is filed. Although they were filed on November 22, 1991, St. Paul's and the Water Board's petitions to intervene are timely due to the time extension granted in the Commission's February 12, 1991 Order. In that Order, the Commission extended the filing date for petitions to intervene in NSP's resource plan proceeding to February 1, 1992. In the Matter of a Request by Northern States Power Company for a Variance from Rules Concerning the Filing Schedule for Electric Utility Resource Plans, Docket No. E-002/M-91-6, ORDER GRANTING VARIANCE (February 12, 1991) at page 4.

On the merits of their motions, St. Paul and the Water Board claimed direct and substantial financial interests in the rates and rate structures of NSP, which will be affected by the outcome of the resource planning process. The Commission finds that these petitioners are interested within the meaning of Minn. Rules, 7843.0300, subpart 7 and will grant them party status.

### ORDER

1. The petitions to intervene filed by Metalcasters of Minnesota, the City of St. Paul, and the St. Paul Board of Water Commissioners are granted.
2. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)